

90-DAY SUMMARY: STATE AGENCY RESPONSES TO DECEMBER STORM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Drinking Water

During the peak of the flood impacts, over 33 public water systems, serving more than 16,000 customers, either lost water or were affected in other ways. Some systems were on boil-water advisories, others had no water at all. In order to meet their immediate needs, watering stations were set up by adjacent water systems and water was trucked in by local fire departments.

Countless individual well owners in these counties were also affected. In Lewis County, all individual well owners were advised to boil their water while cleanup was underway.

The two Lewis County water systems hardest hit by the December 2007 floods have made significant progress toward recovery during the past week. On March 21, DOH ended a bottled-water advisory for the Boistfort Valley Water System, whose customers have been very patient about boiling water for drinking or using bottled water for nearly four months. The water system is now able to consistently produce drinking water that meets health standards. The Town of Pe Ell, meanwhile, has rebuilt its Chehalis River Intake and Pump Station in less than three months, allowing the community to draw water from an approved source for the first time since December. Both communities have done an excellent job of communicating with their customers as repair work progressed. However, major work still lies ahead for these water systems, and both are struggling financially to pay for the repairs. They've applied for federal and state disaster relief with help from DOH staff, Lewis County, and consultants.

Shellfish Areas

Twenty two shellfish areas were closed at some point following the storm, affecting 242 commercial harvesters. All areas were opened by mid-December.

Immunization requests to DOH:

- Grays Harbor requested 80 doses of influenza vaccine for residents of an elder care facility.
- Lewis County requested 1000 doses of Tdap, plus 500 syringes and needles.
- Pacific County requested 100 doses Tdap, and 20 doses TD from TPCHD, plus 500 syringes and needles
- Grays Harbor requested 100 doses of influenza vaccine.
- Thurston County requested 100 doses of Tdap for an emergency response clinic they held.

DOH deployed one WIC staff to Grays Harbor. Grays Harbor also requested assistance for 2 WIC certifiers. Two WIC staff were also sent to Lewis County.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS)

Economic Services Administration (ESA)

Field offices in Grays Harbor, Lewis, Thurston, Mason, Pacific, Kitsap and Clallam counties issued nearly \$5.25 million in federal disaster food stamp benefits to over 16,000 households. The Disaster Food Stamp Program issued the following benefits:

- Number of new households approved – 10,679 (29,275 individuals), with a total value of \$4,066,733.
- Number of replacement households approved – 2,886 (5,853 individuals), for a total value of \$577,181.
- Number of on-going households approved for supplemental benefits – 3,340 (7,035 individuals), for a total value of \$596,230.
- 620 households were denied.

ESA has conducted “lessons learned” discussions in all major counties affected, as well as headquarters, and is compiling the information. We’re also working with the Secretary’s Office and the Long-Term Recovery Organizations to plan the first community LTRO meeting in Lewis County, April 2.

Aging and Disability Services Administration (ADSA)

Aging and Adult Service’s Home and Community Services Program in Regions 5 & 6 supported the Disaster Food Stamp effort by working with its clients who are homebound. They issued:

- New applications – 239 households
- Replacement stamps – 156 households
- Supplemental benefit – 118 households
- Number denied – 47

DSHS kept its offices open until 8 pm daily, and also on Saturdays to take Disaster Food Stamp applications. In Chehalis, they opened a second temporary location in the same mall where the permanent office has relocated.

Evergreen Centralia Health and Rehab Center, a 78 bed nursing facility in Centralia had 4 feet of water in it. Facility was evacuated to a local middle school. The facility was damaged and could not take the residents back. As of 11 pm on 12/06/07, all residents were in new permanent placements.

Children’s Administration (CA)

Children’s Administration contacted all foster home providers and relative caregivers in the affected areas within 48 hours of the end of the storm (over 325). When necessary hotel lodging, food and cleaning supplies were provided to foster parents. Among the lessons learned was the importance of all staff having DC cell phone and computer chargers available for emergencies. These have been provided for all R 6 staff and will be issued to all CA line staff as resources become available.

CA regional staff has requested emergency backup generators in preparation for future incidents. These requests are currently under review by CA's fiscal office.

Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRS), Mental Health

The Health and Recovery Services Administration's Mental Health Division has provided numerous mental health outreach services to residents, businesses and other organizations in the six southwestern Washington counties affected by the December windstorms and flooding. Services range from free support, information and referrals through the Disaster Outreach Services (DOS) toll-free hot line (1-800-850-8775) to other outreach activities that included:

- Up to 3,000 individual contacts with storm-affected residents.
- More than 300 group contacts – many of them interventions aimed at community networking and coalition building.
- More than 2,000 referrals made to other agencies.
- More than 20,000 pieces of educational and informational material to support mental health needs after a natural disaster.

School districts in the two hardest hit counties -- Grays Harbor and Lewis -- have invited the DOS program to meet with students in grades K-6. Age-appropriate materials have been developed, and presentations will be handled by DOS staff with expertise in children's mental health. The DOS program also is collaborating with the FEMA Long-Term Recovery Offices (LTRO) in each community.

The initial DOS services were organized under a \$350,000 federal grant in late December that provided training and staffing funds to get operations off the ground. On February 6, the MHD applied for additional grant funds of \$2.1 million from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Those funds would extend operations of Disaster Outreach Services (DOS) through approximately mid-December 2008.

Staff training and outreach activities have continued without interruption under grant extensions as the agency awaits notice of the new SAMSHA grant award.

A community needs assessment has estimated that more than 12,000 individuals would benefit from crisis counseling over the next nine months of recovery, with an estimated 8 percent increase in alcohol and other substance abuse expected over the same period. This period of time, called the "dissolution phase" of disasters, includes a need for additional mental health services as residents of the disaster area face clean-up, paperwork and other recovery tasks with less support than during the initial crisis phase.

Other susceptible groups -- the elderly, children and ethnic populations -- are being specially targeted in DOS plans this summer and fall. Services will be phased-down in each county as appropriate to the needs of the community.

The new grant funding will include:

- 43 staff positions to provide direct support to the impacted communities.
- 2.5 staff positions for program oversight and communications needs, including media relations work.

- In-kind resources from state and other community agencies
- A public service campaign focused on media markets in Lewis and Grays Harbor counties, highlighting the access to help and the DOS 1-800 number.

HRSA expects a formal response by early April from FEMA concerning the application for the Regular Services Program, which will allow continuation of the DOS program in all six flood-impacted counties for as long as December. Services will be phased down in each county as appropriate to the needs of the community.

Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA), Division of Healthcare Services

Emergency medical assistance efforts in the flood-affected counties centered on providing prescription medicines. Many Medicaid clients were left without access to prescription drugs when their regular pharmacies were closed by flooding. During the next few days, the Pharmacy Authorization Unit helped clients and providers move their prescriptions to other operative pharmacies and arranged emergency dispensing when clients were unable to locate their prescriptions or get new ones from providers.

Although several area hospitals were impacted in the first few days after the storms hit, all were restored to full operations in a short time and provided full access to care for medical assistance clients.

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT (ESD)

ESD received 658 applications for Disaster Unemployment Assistance. Of those, 528 were approved; 130 did not qualify for DUA, but most of them qualified for regular unemployment benefits. As of March 20, ESD had issued 3,442 weeks' worth of Disaster Employment Benefits totaling \$909,575. There have been 83 claims which have been terminated by the claimant, which means they probably returned to work.

ESD received approval for its application for a National Emergency grant to the federal DOL in mid-January. The 6-month grant will be funneled through ESD to local emergency management offices to hire people to help with the ongoing clean-up efforts. Here are the key points of the grant request:

- Requesting \$2.1 million from DOL to create about 140 temporary jobs in the 6 counties listed in the declaration. The jobs pay about \$12.50 per hour plus benefits.
- Money is to provide employment and training to workers who lost their livelihoods due to disaster
- Workers can be used to remove flood debris, serve as flaggers on road and bridges repairs, replant lawns and other ground cover, and help with public health and safety issues
- Workers may work up to 1,040 hours of work or receive a total of \$12,000 in wages over a six month period (benefits are not counted)

So far ESD has spent almost \$200,000 of the grant. So far, 110 temporary positions have been filled. These include 51 positions in Lewis County, working on 15 projects; 51 workers in Grays Harbor County, working on 13 projects; 6 workers in Thurston County, working on one project; and 2 people in Mason County, working on one project.

There have been 55 additional positions for 13 projects identified and recruitments are under way. Those positions are located as follows: 26 in Lewis; 28 in Grays Harbor; 1 in Mason.

Projects include: cleaning/repairing damaged facilities; cleaning/repairing the SW Washington Fairgrounds; installing tile and concrete; clerical support; warehouse/distribution work related to donated construction materials; sorting/boxing/labeling donations; support for Adna Flood Relief; picking up flood debris; cleaning up parks and ball fields; removing dead animals from farms; work on the Chehalis sewage treatment facility; driving pilot cars and providing road flagging for road projects; repairing fences along I-5; cleaning up downed timber; and food distribution.

Economic effects

Employment Security data indicate that there were 376 Lewis County firms within the flood zone. In March 2007, these firms reported employment totaling 4,263 individuals. It is unknown how many Lewis County residents who commute out of the county for work were unable to get to work.

January 2008 data showed a 9.2 percent unemployment rate in Lewis County - an increase of half a point over December 2007 and 0.3 percentage points above the January 2007 rate of 8.9 percent. But looking at historical data, the December-to-January rate has typically increased an average of 1 full percentage point since 2000. So, while the 9.2 percent rate is quite high (the highest in the county since February 2005), it is not unusual for Lewis County.

Despite the infrastructure, equipment and inventory losses, many of the affected businesses have suffered through past floods (there were two major floods in Lewis County during the 1990s). The socioeconomic resiliency of many of these firms can't be ignored as workers pulled together to make what they had work.

Job recovery

For workers who lost jobs in the flood, the new Great Wolf Lodge announced it would give flood victims priority in hiring, with a target of half of its planned 500 jobs going to residents of Grays Harbor and Lewis counties. The Lodge is slated to open in mid-April.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (WSDOT)

I-405 Renton – Sinkhole repair work. Crews worked around the clock to build a 6,000 foot pipe system to divert storm water from the creek. The solution was a 2-step process. The contractor built a pump and pipe system adjacent to the northbound lanes to divert water from Thunder Hills Creek around I-405 via Talbot Road. To build this 6,000-foot pipe system, crews closed one lane, as there was not enough room to construct the system from the shoulder. The second part of the work was off the road as crews drove a new culvert under I-405 to replace the collapsed section. Three runs of pipe in the new emergency pumping system were completed after non-stop work over the week-end. Fifteen giant pumps and generators are on site and WSDOT and contractor crews will check the area once an hour to make sure the system operates. Long term WSDOT is developing a design to replace the entire 400-foot long culvert that runs 60 feet under I-405. That work began in February. Project completion expected to be finished first part of April.

WSDOT crews started work on Dec 18 to replace a destroyed bridge in Lewis County with a Bailey bridge. The bridge was opened to traffic on Dec 21 (six days ahead of schedule) with a 10,000 GVW restriction. Efforts by 40 WSDOT employees allowed the time-table to be moved up. Crews are continuing to make additional upgrades and will soon be able to open the bridge to vehicles under 40,000 GVW.

On SR 96, crews replaced a culvert that failed, undermining a portion of the road. The new culvert box is made of seven 12-foot long sections, each weighing over 15 tons and each have a 10-ton lid. Work completed in January.

SR 6 near Pe Ell opened to traffic both directions in February.

Current damage estimates as of Mar 25:

- WSDOT, \$18,458,964
- Local Agency, \$39,884,042

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

The December 3, 2007, flood carried containers of oil and other hazardous materials onto residential yards, farm lands, the Chehalis River shoreline, creeks and drainages.

Starting Dec. 6, 2007, the Ecology's Spill Response Team started helping Lewis County Health Department by retrieving, identifying and properly disposing of oil and other hazardous materials found along side roadways and public right-of-ways.

Lewis County residents are bringing unwanted or damaged containers of oil and household chemicals to the Lewis County HazoHut in Centralia for free disposal.

Ecology is working in close partnership with the Lewis County Health Department to reach out to private property owners to report any abandoned containers and provided guidance regarding how to treat unknown materials found on their properties for safe disposal.

Starting February 5, 2008, Ecology's Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) began supplementing ongoing efforts by Ecology and Lewis County to help collect containers from the public and businesses.

The following is a summary, as of March 10, 2008, of the containers that Ecology has assessed and helped the Lewis County Health Department remove for disposal:

- 129 metal and polymer drums (55-gallon size); 53 with liquids, 76 empty.
- 385 five-gallon containers; 227 with liquids, 158 empty.
- 362 one-gallon containers; 212 liquids, 150 empty.
- 1,037 miscellaneous small containers; 680 with liquids, 357 empty.
- 611 tires.
- 28 propane tanks.
- 445 gallons of hazardous waste (oil-based paint, aerosols, flammable liquids, corrosive liquids, liquid pesticides)
- 1560 gallons of oil, gasoline, anti-freeze and miscellaneous liquid wastes

- 19 fluorescent lights (all contain mercury).
- 1,000 pounds of vegetation and other oiled debris.
- Other types of waste including a 5-pound bag of fertilizer, 3 fire extinguishers, 3 large empty fuel tanks, 4 car batteries, and 4 television sets.

As a result of this collection effort, a total of 6,200 pounds of solid waste had been disposed of at the Centralia Transfer Station.

Flood plain management

DOE is working with FEMA staff to review flood damage prevention ordinances and identify repetitive loss properties in the most affected counties. They are also working with FEMA to review flood damage prevention ordinances and identify properties that have suffered repetitive flood damages and losses in the most affected counties.

Other Ecology flood plain management activities have included:

- Meeting with officials from FEMA, Lewis County, Centralia and Chehalis to provide them with an update about flood hazard mapping activities currently being undertaken in the Chehalis River basin. Draft flood maps for the effected communities are anticipated to be available within the next 6 months.
- Working in partnership with the state departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources (DNR) to make an aerial assessment of logjams throughout the Chehalis Watershed, the multi-agency team formulated a ranking list of high-risk logjams for removal by DNR contract crews.
- Participating in the Chehalis Basin Partnership meeting where focus was on the potential formation of a multi-County Flood Control District. Further analysis and discussion of this issue will be forthcoming.
- Consulting with Lewis County, Chehalis and Centralia about the hazard mitigation grant Program (HMGP). All three jurisdictions have submitted letters of intent with state EMD. All three jurisdictions have proposed hazard mitigation projects that include property acquisitions and elevating homes.
- Working with the state Department of Transportation, FEMA, Lewis County and the cities of Centralia and Chehalis on a flood depth and inundation map for the Chehalis floodway area. Lewis County surveyed the high water mark and Ecology is supplementing the information to help determine the overall depth of the flood waters.
- Surveying nearly 200 high water marks in Lewis and Thurston counties, referencing them with global position system equipment, and establishing elevations that will be used to more accurately model the event and aid the development of new flood hazard maps.
- Conducting a joint Ecology-FEMA aerial fly over of the effected flood area in Lewis County. This aerial perspective is helping state and federal officials determine where action could be taken to offset future flood incidents in the Chehalis River basin.

- Conducting a residential substantial damage estimator (a computer program) workshop to help prepare about a dozen officials in Centralia, Chehalis and Lewis County to work in the field with FEMA to make assessments.
- Holding a special builders' workshop in Olympia about flood damage reduction to the Olympia Master Builders Association. More than 30 contractors from Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston counties attended.
- Exchanging data with Lewis County and state EMD to determine the flood event characteristics for floodplain management purposes.
- Meeting with the state Department of Labor & Industries which had inspected 200 manufactured homes in Lewis County to determine flood damage to these dwellings.

Solid waste removal issues

- Ecology has secured \$100,000 to help dispose of about 200 "red-tagged" homes damaged by the flood. The Southwest Clean Air Agency has committed another \$25,000. About half are modular or mobile homes. The money is intended as seed money to aid in ensuring the proper disposal of and developing alternatives to burning these structures.
- Ecology is working with the Lewis County Public Works Department on a contract agreement retroactive to January 1, 2008.
- The wording of the first version of the contract likely will be amended to ensure money will be leveraged to make certain that the majority of affected structures are properly disposed of.
- When the project was first discussed, FEMA indicated the county might have access to federal dollars to support the project but that aid now appears unlikely.
- Lewis County is investigating other sources of revenue to make this a viable project. Talks between the two agencies will continue.

Dam safety activities

On December 3, 2007, dam safety engineers inspected 3 high hazard dams in Kitsap and Mason counties, and contacted the owners of 9 dams to see if any problems had developed.

No serious problems reported, except for extremely high water levels and spillway flow at Lake Tahuyeh in Kitsap County, which flooded several homes around the lake.

On January 31, 2008, officials from the state departments of Ecology, Fish & Wildlife, and Natural Resources and Kitsap County Emergency Management met to discuss flooding issues and potential mitigation strategies for the Tahuya River.

Homeowners are now waiting for approval from the state Department of Fish and Wildlife to test the outlet valve on the Tahuya River dam to see if a drawdown of the lake before a flood is feasible. The homeowners need to get the proper state permits to conduct the test.

WASHINGTON COMMISSION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE (WCNCS)

Each year, more than 1,000 AmeriCorps members serve throughout Washington State to address numerous unmet community needs. In addition to their day-to-day service, such as tutoring, violence prevention and environmental restoration, AmeriCorps members have proven to be a valuable resource in supporting our state's disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts.

Following the December floods, WCNCS grantees deployed AmeriCorps members to support their neighbors in need. Examples (by county) are provided below:

Lewis County

In partnership with the Thurston County Medical Reserve Corps, 20 AmeriCorps members sponsored by Community Youth Services (Olympia) were deployed to Lewis County to assist the United Way in their efforts to gather, sort and distribute food, clothing and hygiene supplies for flood victims.

The Cowlitz AmeriCorps Network (Longview) and the Washington Service Corps' Cispus Learning Center (Randle, WA) programs deployed 15 AmeriCorps members to Adna to deliver food and water to residents; clean a local church and grange to be used as relief centers; and organize donations at the flood relief distribution center managed by the United Way of Lewis County. One week later, 15 AmeriCorps members returned to sort new donations of clothing; move heater meals; organize donations of toys, food, toiletries and furniture; and loaded the vehicles of visiting flood victims with needed supplies.

A member of the Spokane Service Team, assigned to the American Red Cross, recruited and deployed the Inland NW Chapter's volunteers to various locations throughout Western Washington impacted by flooding. As a result of his efforts, eight volunteers as well as the Emergency Communications Response Vehicle (one of only 14 in the nation) and Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicle (a mobile feeding unit) were mobilized.

Washington State Department of Ecology - Washington Conservation Corps deployed three crews of AmeriCorps members (18 people) to Lewis County through the month of January to assist residents of Boistfort and Doty with recovery efforts including: debris removal; cleaning up affected homes and properties; building temporary pens for lost animals, etc. Additionally, the Washington Conservation Corps deployed 100 AmeriCorps members throughout Lewis County to help staff emergency shelters; distribute Red Cross supplies, ice and water; and clean flooded homes in Boistfort and Adna. AmeriCorps members helped to avert a barn fire by emptying it of soaked and smoldering hay and assisted other farmers with wet livestock feed.

In conjunction with the MLK Day of Service on January 21, the Washington Commission for National and Community Service (WCNCS) partnered with Washington State Parks, the Department of Ecology's Washington Conservation Corps and 30 AmeriCorps members to sponsor a large community service project at Rainbow Falls State Park. The project, which was kicked off by First Mike, engaged 150 community volunteers (including 25 sailors from NAS Whidbey) to help remove flood debris and clean the severely damaged park. The project was so successful that the park will be able to open this spring without any additional clean-up activities or volunteer efforts.

WCNCS is coordinating with the Volunteer Center of Lewis, Thurston and Mason Counties to conduct a large-scale event during National Volunteer Week to recognize the outpouring of support from hundreds of Washingtonians who volunteered following the December floods. The event will be held in the Blue Pavilion at the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds (Centralia-Chehalis) on April 29, 2008.

Thurston County

Two crews from the Washington Conservation Corps helped to cut, split and distribute firewood to families who relied on firewood as their only heat source. Three Washington Service Corps members serving with the American Red Cross Mt. Rainier Chapter assisted with setting up and managing a shelter in Rochester.

Grays Harbor County

In Grays Harbor, AmeriCorps members from the Washington Conservation Corps and Washington Service Corps program filled and stacked thousands of sandbags, delivered vital supplies, engaged in door-to-door damage assessments, and cleared tons of woody debris.

Kitsap County

Six AmeriCorps members from the Kitsap Community Resources (Bremerton) AmeriCorps program managed two shelters. In addition, members and the community volunteers they recruited worked with county road crews to remove debris from storm drains to help alleviate further damage,

King County

Although King County was not hit particularly hard by the storms and flooding, an AmeriCorps member assigned to King County Emergency Management was deployed to the Emergency Operations Center to help answer calls and direct the state's residents to available resources.

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SERVICES

On December 4, there were 63 network sites, 9 scan sites, and 9 K20 sites down due to the storm. All were restored as of December 12.

The Washington State Department of Information Services continues to regularly update the Access Washington website, with links to road closures, shelters, utility companies and rescue organizations during the December 2007 storm and flood. Additional links and information (translated into six languages) were added to the site, providing direct access to federal, state and local emergency resources for citizens and businesses.

Access Washington has been working with the Emergency Management Division (EMD) to align the information and presentation of state emergency resource sites including Access Washington, EMD, and the Governor's Office to assure consistency and accuracy. In addition, Access Washington has teamed with the Department of Community Trade, and Economic Development to provide information to support businesses adversely affected by the storm.

During the first day of the storm, visits to the emergency information site rose to 1,400 percent above normal usage, and remained high for several weeks. Important storm assistance and county emergency resource information remain on the Access Washington's home page.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (WDVA)

WA Vets Home in Retsil admitted a veteran who was a victim of the floods in Lewis County. He had been living independently in an apartment that was condemned because of significant flood damage. He had been in a shelter, but had been without medications for 4 days and his condition was deteriorating. WDVA provided restorative care and will work with him on long-term placement.

They also were contacted by a second displaced veteran and worked to place him at one of the Western WA veteran's homes.

On December 19 the WDVA, in conjunction with the federal VA and other state and federal agencies, provided services to 87 veterans and family members in a Veterans Flood Victims Outreach. Veterans received a full cadre of health care services, including replacement medications for those lost in floods; financial aid from American Legion and the county Veterans Assistance Fund; pro bono legal assistance; information from FEMA, etc.

The WDVA is collaborating with DSHS, CTED, ESD, and WIDRO to provide a roundtable discussion on long-term disaster recovery on the evening of April 2 at the Harrison Square Presbyterian Church in Centralia.

SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

School for the Deaf reported they held 28 students on campus over the weekend that normally would have been transported home on Friday, because of the I-5 closure. All had a safe and uneventful weekend.

SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND (WSB)

The music department for the Washington State School for the Blind held its annual Winter Holiday Program on Dec 18. The students, along with the WSB Foundation, decided to ask those attending to contribute to the flood victims from the community of Boistfort, as the School has had a connection to that community through its outreach program. The School will work with the Boistfort Lions Club to distribute the funds. The students raised \$500.

WASHINGTON STATE PATROL (WSP)

At the request of the Lewis County Sheriff, WSP assigned two troopers to patrol county roads and provide back-up assistance to county deputies from 2 pm to midnight each day through Saturday December 15.

The Chehalis Detachment Office was re-occupied on February 11, 2008, after having been uninhabitable due to the flood damage.

Homeland Security division staffed the State EOC during storm response, 24/7 for initial storm response. Aerial videos were provided by using our FLIR cameras on our Cessnas with live video feed to state EOC. This asset shortened the FEMA federal disaster declaration and assessment process due to the instantaneous information. They also participated in monthly conference calls with EMD regarding Nov 06 and Dec 07 activations.

When the Washington State Patrol temporarily lost the use of the Chehalis Detachment office due to the flooding, it resulted in a communications loss to the U.S. Department of Justice emergency communications system. The WSP restored service on the system within 24 hours. The floods also caused the loss of commercial power to the primary communications site in the Chehalis area for several state, local, and federal first responders. The WSP's Electronic Services Division and Property Management Division have been maintaining power to the communication site using the backup generator continuously since then. Commercial power and access road restoration is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2008.

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (GA)

GA released 40,000 pounds of federal surplus food for relief in Grays Harbor County. This is in addition to the food initially requested by the coastal distribution center. There were 22 locations where people could pick up staple food items.

GA also distributed 14 pallets of tarps to Raymond. Central Stores drove to Arlington to pick up 6 pallets of logs, stopped at Ft. Lewis to pick up 8 pallets of bleach and delivered all to Chehalis. They also had a request for an additional 1000 blankets, and after some difficulty finding a supply, located them through DOC in Walla Walla and picked them up and delivered them the next day.

Central Stores delivered 5 pallets of blankets and 1,008 food-grade buckets to Lewis County United Way; and 50 cases of infant formula were delivered to Oakville.

GA's Engineering and Architectural Services program sent some building inspection teams to Centralia to help inspect homes. Over the first weekend following the flood the teams inspected over 550 homes. Most were green-tagged, with a handful of yellow tags.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DFI)

DFI reported that the FDIC sent letters to all FDIC supervised banks encouraging them to work constructively with borrowers who are experiencing difficulties beyond their control because of damage caused by the disaster.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION (DAHP)

DAHP has engaged historic preservation consultants to conduct a reconnaissance survey of damaged historic properties in the Chehalis River basin. An initial scoping tour of southwest Washington led them to focus their field work in the river's floodplain in western Lewis County downstream of Chehalis/Centralia. Preliminary findings of their work indicate that they have identified 17 damaged properties that the consultants are recommending as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or the Washington Heritage Register. This includes the Curtis Store; the remaining properties are farm buildings (homes and barns) in the Adna, Doty, Curtis, and Boistfort areas.

From this point, the consultants will be conducting damage assessments of damaged National Register eligible properties in order to arrive at ballpark repair cost estimates, so we will have a general idea of the needed costs for repairing these properties. That information should be in hand by the end of April.

In addition to this work, DAHP staff is in regular contact with FEMA staff and have met with them on several occasions regarding damage to historic properties. This has included an on-site meeting in Des Moines at Covenant Beach Camp with City of Des Moines officials, FEMA, and the State Historic Preservation Officer. Other meetings have addressed specific damaged properties in the Chehalis/Centralia area such as railroad lines, and State Park properties among others.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (DFW)

DFW reported that 18 western Washington Hatcheries were severely impacted by the December 2007, flood. The direct outcome of the flood was a temporary disruption of operation that could have resulted in catastrophic loss to state

salmon and steelhead resources. A limited number of fish escaped from their rearing vessels as flood waters topped over them. This allowed hatchery reared fish to be release early into less than desirable conditions, we have no proven methods to predict their survival. Initial estimates to return hatchery facilities to pre-flood condition ranges from \$510,000 to \$4.3 million and remains preliminary due to the location of the facility infrastructure. Comprehensive assessments may not be available until summer low flow in the western Washington rivers where the facilities are located.

The Bob Oke Game Range is closing in on completing repairs and at present is expected to be completed near the end of March. It should come in under the predicted budget of \$123,000.

RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

The Recreation and Conservation Office reported that most of its Salmon Recovery projects in flood impacted areas seemed to have fared well. Several local and state parks did suffer damages. The Office has compiled a list of projects (both active and older) funded through grants that have been impacted by the storm. The Office has contributed additional salmon recovery grant funds (\$10,000) for some repairs to salmon recovery projects. It is anticipated that applications for upcoming grants for salmon projects and recreation projects in 2008 may include sites or facilities that were impacted by the storm and not eligible for FEMA funding.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CTED)

Olympic Community Action assisted in the re-supply of 300 plus meals to the Hoh Tribe. The Air National Guard had transported 5 pallets of perishable and non-perishable food from the warehouse in Pt. Townsend.

CTED's Community Services and Housing Divisions are actively involved with the Human Services Action Group and will play a key role in an event planned for April 2, 2008, in Lewis County. This will be a meeting between a number of state agencies and Lewis County residents, particularly those involved with the Long-Term Recovery Organization.

The Community Action Agencies contractors provide both emergency services (such as food banks, energy assistance and housing) and longer term services designed to help a family achieve self-sufficiency (such as family development case management and counseling, job search, GED and ESL). These services continued before, during and after the immediate disaster.

The federally-funded Home Repair and Rehabilitation Program has identified up to \$400,000 that may be available and used in conjunction with the recently provided waiver from the Department of Housing and Urban Development that reduces some of the administrative barriers for a limited period of time (mainly through 2009).

The 2008 supplemental budget has \$10 million for use in the areas declared as disasters from the December storm. The uses of these capital funds will potentially be used to create new affordable low income housing in Lewis County and other capital projects.

CTED hired Epler and Associates to conduct a limited housing needs assessment. There are an unknown number of homes and households who are eligible for services. The needs assessment will be available March 31, but it appears that there is a lack of consistent and reliable data as many of the inspections done to date have used inconsistent standards.

The Public Works Board approved an emergency loan in March 2008 for Valley View Sewer District, loan amount \$205,650. They had a landslide impacting a sewer line as a result of the December 2007 storm.

The Public Works Board will be considering an emergency loan in the amount of \$500,000 at their April 2008 meeting for the City of Bainbridge Island. The City had street and storm water impacts as a result of the December 2007 storms.

The Public Works Board amended its emergency loan terms in February 2008 by agreeing that the Public Works Trust Fund Emergency Loan terms will remain the same. Jurisdictions may receive an emergency loan of \$500,000 per jurisdiction per biennium with 3% interest rate for 20 years, with the following exception: jurisdictions may receive an emergency loan with the interest rate reduced from 3% to 0.5% for applications in distressed counties directly related to a state, federal, or other locally declared natural disaster (at the Public Works Board discretion) in the amount of \$1,000,000 per jurisdiction per biennium for 20 years.

CTED region staff for economic development continues to work with flooded areas of the state to discuss land use, economic development and infrastructure needs. Staff are vetting projects and providing technical assistance to help prepare applications to state funding sources. Centralized staff is preparing strategies to distribute funding identified in the supplemental budget to flood affected communities.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE (DOR)

IRS will provide relief to taxpayers who have businesses in the affected areas. Taxpayers had until February 6, 2008 to file their returns for any taxes that were due on or after December 1, 2007. Penalties for failure-to-deposit on employment and excise taxes that were due on or after December 1, 2007 will be waived if the deposits are made by December 17.

DOR will grant tax return filing extensions and waive penalties for firms that are unable to file on time due to the flooding. They will also postpone any scheduled excise audits for businesses, and any scheduled property tax audits of citizens and businesses.

DOR met with the Lewis County Assessor and Treasurer to understand where they were with respect to administering property taxes, closing rolls, calculating levies, and processing destroyed property forms. As a result DOR worked with Lewis County as well as other counties to determine tax districts impacted and to obtain rough estimates of the destroyed property in order to estimate impacts on levy rates and possible impacts on the tax districts, including revenue shortfalls, tax shifts, and potential impacts on bond payments that may be due. Using staff from other counties and retirees, all reassessments in Lewis, Mason, Kitsap, and Grays Harbor counties were completed by January 3.

DOR continues providing assistance to Lewis County

After various meetings with Lewis County, DOR staff advised the county on the best methodology to process all destroyed property claims quickly so that property owners received relief and impacts to taxing districts were minimized. Because the flooding occurred at the time when tax rolls were closing, the Lewis County Assessor was not able to certify the assessment roll to the Treasurer by the typical January 15th deadline. Due to the assistance that Revenue's Property Tax Division staff provided to Lewis County, the assessment roll certification to the Treasurer by the Assessor was only delayed by three weeks. The Assessor will require additional assistance from DOR in 2008 in order to visit each damaged property's progress on rehabilitation. DOR will continue to dedicate staff to assisting county administrative functions, helping to coordinate new construction workload, answer legal and technical questions of

county administrators and taxpayers, and to document best practices on methods county officials may take when disasters happen in the future.

Property tax revenue losses in Lewis County for 2007

As a result of the flood, thirty local taxing districts and one state district lost a total of \$60,000 in property tax revenue in Lewis County. These losses reflect about \$10.9M dollars of assessed property value damaged in 2007. The major districts losing revenue included; schools, cities and towns, roads, library, county general fund, and the state school levy. Other counties experienced negligible losses.

Damaged Timber Adjustments

DOR Revenue Foresters have reviewed 185 damaged timber adjustment applications including site verification for 13 major forest owners in Clallam, Grays Harbor, Mason, Pacific, and Wahkiakum Counties. Damage to timber involves blow down or broken trees on 9,762 acres of timber land. Storm damage has impacted 238 million board feet (59,500 log truck loads) of timber. Affected owners must salvage log their timber promptly to realize any economic returns. Owners are experiencing poor financial returns for their damaged and low quality timber in today's depressed markets. Qualifying taxpayers are receiving adjustments from the DOR for their Timber Excise Tax obligations to offset the 33% increase in logging costs. The Timber Excise Tax savings for the affected taxpayers is estimated to be \$512,000 for 2008. Additional applications are still being received.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Department arranged for Olympic Air in Shelton to provide helicopter service to assist a Belfair resident who needed his hay bales relocated to feed his herd of harness-racing horses. Flooding on the Tahuya took out the bridge he uses to reach the horses on his 200-acre property. He had been using a small boat to get hay to the animals, but was exhausted making the repeated trips. The airlift successfully occurred on Dec 20.

A major concern continues to be the preparation of the fields for planting of new crops. Logs and wood debris are being removed. A large amount of sediment still must be removed or dispersed. The department has worked closely with DNR and Fish and Wildlife on wood debris. The Conservation Commission is taking the lead on silt and sediment removal and dispersement.

The Department has encouraged the farm community to report damages to USDA and sign up for various federal disaster assistance programs. More than 150 Southwest Washington producers reported agricultural and damage losses to USDA's Farm Service Agency for fence damage, feed losses, animal losses, structure damage, debris or erosion damage, and sediment removal.

USDA estimates that their Emergency Conservation Program will provide \$1.7 million for fence repair, debris removal and sediment removal. The extension of USDA's Livestock Indemnity Program and Livestock Compensation Program until December 31, 2007 may provide some assistance to dairies which lost animals and feed during the flooding, but the dollar figure is unknown at this time.

No federal assistance seems to be available for repair of farm equipment, barns and other outbuildings. The Farm Bureau estimates that the loss of farm equipment may reach \$5 million.

The 17 flooded organic farms will continue to meet organic standards. In December and January, WSDA organic inspectors found silt, mud and woody debris, but no areas of concern from synthetic contaminants. In February, inspectors collected plant material growing on the flooded farms. Laboratory analysis of the plant material shows no contamination by pesticides or chemicals that would compromise the farms' organic status or prevents them from marketing this year's crop as organically raised.

Of the six dairies in the impacted area, four have resumed operations. One dairy is slated to be operational by summer. The final impacted dairy has consolidated its operations on its other facility. It may take some time for herd sizes to reach pre-flood levels. Both impacted dairy processing plants will be back up and running by the end of April. WSDA inspectors have been working closely with all dairies and processors during the recovery.

STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

The Board authorized the community colleges in the affected areas to grant tuition waivers to students who were impacted by the disaster. The waivers are for winter and spring quarter based on a local assessment. Demand for winter quarter was heavy at Grays Harbor College where residents were able to "get back" in their routine a bit sooner. In Lewis County the devastation to personal and real property has been so significant that the demand on Centralia College, as expected, surged for spring quarter because existing clean-up efforts took much longer before students were once again able to focus on their studies. Limited use of the waiver was utilized at South Puget Sound Community College for residents affected from Southern Thurston County, Lower Columbia College for residents of Cowlitz County and Olympic College for residents of Kitsap County.

To date:

- Grays Harbor College has awarded 333 waivers totaling \$187,907
- Centralia College has awarded 41 waivers totaling \$26,693
- Olympic College has awarded 16 waivers totaling \$10,165
- South Puget Sound Community College has awarded 10 waivers totaling \$6,843
- Lower Columbia College has awarded 3 waivers totaling \$2,617

Additionally, in early March the Board temporarily expanded eligibility for Worker Retraining services to storm-impacted workers in all declared counties. This means that workers whose employment situation was affected by the storm and people who need new skills in order to be employed in disaster recovery can get financial assistance for retraining at local community and technical colleges. The Board approved emergency funding for 30 full-time worker retraining enrollments at Centralia college plus funds for a "laptop computer lending library" for retraining students who are living in temporary situations with no computers because of the floods. The Board is currently reviewing a retraining emergency request for Grays Harbor College to assist storm-impact workers.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES (L&I)

L&I electrical inspectors assisted K-Mart in Centralia with the inspection of repairs needed to get their facility operational. Also, inspectors continue to respond to requests for commercial and residential electrical inspections as they are received.

An estimated 9,000 acres of trees representing 1.2 billion board feet of timber were affected in Washington by the storms. Since December, Department of Labor and Industries staff have met with 10 major associations and logging industry groups (i.e., Dept of Natural Resources, Society of American Forests, Western Council of Forest Engineers, etc.) to talk about logging safety standards. L&I logging inspectors have conducted safety consultations with 15 commercial logging contractors working exclusively with downed trees. Our inspectors conducted four chain saw safety courses for Department of Transportation personnel working to remove fallen trees from roadways. Four other safety consultations were conducted for commercial logging contractors working for the large timber companies.

L&I factory assembled structure (FAS) inspectors have assisted building inspectors in Lewis county with over 300 mobile home inspections. There are currently 12 active permits where our inspectors are doing inspections on repairs being made to flood damaged homes. Many of the homes that were red tagged by local building officials have been demolished, remain unoccupied or are in different stages of repair.

Electrical problems are appearing in formerly flooded homes as damage to wiring becomes apparent. One fire was apparently caused by such damage. L&I electrical inspection staff have offered to do free inspections through the local building departments.

DEPARTMENT OF EARLY LEARNING (DEL)

DEL licensing staff worked to contact every child care provider in Lewis and Grays Harbor counties following the storm to check on their health and safety as well as offer technical assistance and support. There are 23 child care centers and 56 family child care homes in Grays Harbor County, and 21 child care centers and 45 family child care homes in Lewis County. Most providers spoke with a licenser or had an onsite visit. There were follow up visits with four family child care homes and four child care centers to provide onsite consultation and complete safety checks. One center in Lewis County was closed permanently based on damages from the storm.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Employees at Stafford Creek Corrections Center were able to keep the hard-hit prison and its 1,936 offenders secure during the storm. The prison was hit at midnight with wind gusts that reached 80 MPH. Because of the storm damage half of the next day's shift was unable to get to work, so many employees remained on duty, even though most of their own homes and families were without power and had major property losses. An electrician from the prison was assigned to support the Grays Harbor Emergency Operations Center; and the prison offered offender assistance to fill sandbags.

A 10 person offender crew from Cedar Creek Corrections Center spent 8 hours filling sandbags for the Thurston County Emergency Relief Office. Another 10-person offender crew spent two days clearing trees for the City of Aberdeen. Other offenders filled sandbags and placed them to protect prison buildings.

Nine of the Olympic Corrections Center's work crews worked to clear Department of Natural Resources and private roads into state lands. They removed blown-down timber, inspected drainage pipes, bridges, and debris gates to ensure further damage would not occur.

Two work crews consisting of 16 offenders from the Monroe Corrections Center spent much of the day on December 3 filling sandbags at the City of Index's fire station in response to a request from Snohomish County Emergency Management Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)

Current estimates show that approximately 17,000 acres of state and private forest were heavily damaged and many will need to be salvaged in the next 16-18 months. Rough estimates suggest that salvage operations may bring as much as 600-800 million board feet of timber onto the market. DNR estimates blow-down from state trust lands to total approximately 100million board feet. The remainder is from private landowners. These totals are the agency's best estimates.

Since the normal harvest level in Washington State is about 4 billion board feet per year on private and state lands, the wind-blown timber represents between 15 and 20 percent of our state's annual state and private timber harvest.

Recovery on DNR-managed state trust land

While the region is still assessing the full extent of the storm damage, preliminary recovery plans have been drafted and are under executive review. DNR's Pacific Cascade Region staff is expediting recovery efforts from storm damage. Activities include salvage harvests, clean-up of recreation areas, and necessary road repairs. Harvest activities related to blown-down timber will involve biologists with expertise in marbled murrelets, northern spotted owls, and other threatened and endangered species where habitat was impacted by the storm.

Recovery assistance for landowners

DNR continues working to expedite forest practices applications so landowners can implement necessary recovery harvesting, road repairs, and other activities. Forest practices rules remain in effect. Alternate plans may be used by some landowners, and each will be evaluated on its own merits, versus using a one-size-fits-all approach.

In addition, Timber Fish and Wildlife group meetings are being held to give forest landowners an interactive opportunity to ask technical questions regarding their options for recovery planning. This recovery assistance is being offered in coordination with other state and federal agencies and TFW stakeholders.

Timber blow down data collection

DNR's Forest Health Group has complete flights of forested areas within 20 miles of the coast to map forest blow down. Maps of blow down are being completed over the next few days and will be available online.

Woody debris removal assistance for farmers

DNR continues coordinating the removal of woody debris in the upper Chehalis River Valley and surrounding locations where early December flooding deposited this material on farmlands. Removal services are available at no cost to farmers who request the agency's assistance and authorize access to their land. DNR is coordinating the woody debris removal effort with the state's other natural resources agencies, the State Military Department Emergency Management

Division, and local governments in the affected counties. DNR's expertise with emergency response and contacts with the forest products industry will help facilitate efficient removal of this material.

The goal of the effort is to clear the woody debris from agricultural fields and then market as much as possible. At this time, it appears most of the marketable wood will be chipped for fuel. Any proceeds from the effort will be used to defray the cost of the removal.

DNR's Pacific Cascade Region is currently working to arrange landowner Right of Entry agreements and operator contracts for debris removal from agricultural lands. Due to moisture conditions, this work will not likely occur in the near term except at a very limited number of sites (one in Lewis County and one in Mason County).

Woody debris removal successful in/near stream

Three priority in-stream debris areas were identified for immediate action. Efforts were successfully coordinated by DNR. Work has been completed at two of the sites. Due to site conditions and the fact that no immediate threat exists at the third site (near Pe Ell), debris removal from the old channel will occur in May and as of this date, all three are free-flowing. A fourth site (Rogers Creek) is inaccessible and on Weyerhaeuser Company land. The Commissioner is currently consulting with Weyerhaeuser to determine their intentions for this site.

Forest Practices Board storm meeting

The Washington State Forest Practices Board, an independent state agency staffed by DNR, set aside other business and devoted its entire February 13 regular meeting to storm-related issues. The Board took public comment and heard presentations on the December storm event and its effects, the state's storm recovery and response efforts, relationships between forest practices and slope stability, scientific studies on slope stability that are being carried out by the Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program, and other storm-related topics. At a special meeting on February 22, the Board directed staff to prepare a work plan that addresses the role of watershed analysis in forest practices regulation, and present that work plan to the Board at the Board's May 21 meeting.

Forest Practices Board tour

The Forest Practices Board will tour storm-impacted areas on June 10th. The public is welcome to participate in this tour; however, participants must provide their own transportation. For more information, please contact FPB Rules Coordinator, Patricia Anderson (patricia.anderson@dnr.wa.gov, 360-902-1413).

Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program

The Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program is proceeding to implement Mass Wasting Prescription-scale Effectiveness Monitoring. This project is designed to evaluate landslides in the wake of a large storm event to determine the degree to which management actions were responsible for triggering the landslides. This study will include landslides associated with roads, harvest, and leaves areas, to determine the effectiveness of current management strategies. \$200,000 of additional funding for this study was appropriated in the 2008 supplemental budget to expand the geographic scope of this study, to gain broader inference.

STATE PARKS

First Gentleman Mike Gregoire joined 300 volunteers, organized by the Governor's Office of Volunteerism and Community Service in January, to help restore Rainbow Falls State Park in Lewis County. The historic Chehalis River Park was closed by severe flood damage. The restroom facilities were activated quickly and have served volunteers in Lewis

County who are helping flood victims. All of that help and work y dedicated State Parks staff will allow the park to reopen near Memorial Day.

WASHINGTON NATIONAL GUARD

During the Dec 2007 flooding over 480 citizen soldiers/airmen from the Washington Army and Air National Guard and State Guard answered the call to State Active Duty in response to the most severe flooding Western Washington has experienced in decades.

Operating primarily in Lewis, Pacific and Grays Harbor counties over an 11-day period, the Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen performed an array of critical missions. Using over 100 high-water capable military vehicles and critical equipment the Guardsmen and women facilitated traversing impassable roads to deliver critical supplies and evacuate flood stranded citizens. Soldiers and airmen also assisted the Washington State Patrol with traffic control points to ensure that citizens could travel safely through the flood affected region. The Washington National Guard assisted local Emergency Management departments to conduct house-to-house welfare checks, and stage and deliver, food, water, clothing, generators and other life essential items throughout the flooding period. Operations were controlled by the Washington National Guard Joint Operations Center (JOC) in coordination with the Washington State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Camp Murray.

State Guard members, primarily retired Washington National Guard members, worked directly in many of the heavily impacted counties Emergency Operations Centers, and were instrumental in being onsite liaisons to the JOC and state EMD. They served as principal advisors to incident commanders on what capabilities the National Guard has to assist with disaster missions.

Emergency Management Division (EMD)

- EMD activated and managed the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), December 1-17.
- EMD led state agency coordination of assistance through the State EOC during the incident response phase and the transition to the incident recovery phase.
- EMD staff analyzed the hazard situation and developed and coordinated appropriate action plans for the State EOC.
- EMD staff drafted and coordinated the Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency, as well as the requests to the President for a major disaster declaration.
- EMD provided GIS support for state agencies at the State EOC.
- The State Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) branch of the EOC was activated December 3-5 and coordinated the air rescue and recovery operations for approximately 300 citizens in Lewis County.
- Approximately 770 people sought assistance in 25 shelters in Grays Harbor, Lewis, Thurston, Snohomish, Mason, Kitsap, and King Counties.

- Washington Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (WAVOAD) and Washington Interfaith Disaster Recovery Organization (WIDRO) provided valuable service meeting requests for assistance such as food, clothing, and clean up assistance.
- An EMD State Emergency Operations Officer (SEOO) flew on a two-day air mission reaching out to each of the coastal tribes, assuring their safety, providing communication and coordination with each one.
- EMD provided liaisons to Grays Harbor and Lewis County EOCs, as well as a logistician to Lewis County to assist with the United Way collection point.
- EMD provided EOC-to-EOC coordination with 11 county, 7 city, and 3 tribal EOCs through individual calls and e-mails, and through group conference calls with the affected jurisdictions.
- The State EOC processed and coordinated 95 formal requests for assistance for commodities such as water, food, tarps, etc, and also distributed 56,000 sandbags.
- EMD provided the staff for state component of the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Lacey with FEMA.

Business sector liaison function

This incident provided the first opportunity to activate EMD's new Business liaison function. The Corporate Relations Office responded to 147 inquiries and/or requests for assistance from the business community during the response phase of the event.

Examples of positive outcomes as a result of the establishment of the state business liaison program include:

- **Traffic Management Support using General Motors' Onstar Crisis Assist Program.** Onstar is a subscription-based program offered to owners of GM vehicles which includes a Crisis Center number that can be accessed 24/7 to assist the drivers with a variety of emergencies. In our state, Onstar has 60,000 subscribers. Using real-time information sent by EMD's Corporate Relations office, Onstar rerouted its subscribers at the most critical period of response when WSDOT began the unscheduled closing of roads. Result: Reduced the number of frustrated motorists on our roadways and improved safety within our traffic corridors by leveraging private industry technology solutions for rerouting traffic.
- **Private Supply Chain Continuity.** Safeway was one of the few food stores in Chehalis that was able to remain fully operational due to the fact the store was on high ground. The difficulty for Safeway was determining how to keep their supply chain operational into Chehalis once I-5 was closed. The Corporate Relations Office partnership with Safeway led to a coordinated process between WSDOT, WSP and our National Guard task forces to keep Safeway's supply chain intact. Result: Ensured critical commodities were delivered via private industry to this hard hit community eliminating the need to seek government resourcing of these critical supplies.
- **Partnerships.** DOH partnered with EMD Corporate Relations office to identify retail businesses willing to distribute carbon monoxide education materials at point of sale and at retail display areas. Wal-Mart readily agreed to download and print the carbon monoxide materials from the DOH website to distribute with every generator sold in the affected counties.

- Carbon monoxide handouts were also distributed through the Washington State Patrol.
- More than 7,000 English/Spanish handouts were distributed along with over 2,000 Chinese/Russian and Korean/Vietnamese.
 - This work also led to the initiation of a partnership led by DOH working with EMD and the Fire Marshal's office to have state agencies agree on messaging and shared distribution channels for carbon monoxide information.
 - DOH has received positive feedback from local health partners and local emergency operation contacts about the availability of flood related fact sheets in multiple languages.
 - Having the materials ready to go in a download format on the website was invaluable since the roads were literally cut off in many areas --this allowed the local jurisdictions to print their own copies and expedited distribution efforts.

Disaster Joint Field Office accomplishments

- The EMD Human Services team grew from 1 person to 49 people between December 9 and 13, to conduct recovery operations throughout the declared counties.
- From December 13, 2007 through March 19, 2008, this team worked straight through the holidays, logging 12 plus hours a day, 7 days a week for weeks, to provide qualitative services at a record pace.
 - The team conducted preliminary damage assessments (PDAs) in 11 counties leading to a federal declaration in 10 counties; performed community relations operations in 10 counties in less than 60 days garnering over 10,600 registrations; lines handling well over 5,000 calls; processed 4,349 Other Needs Assistance (ONA) grant cases awarding approximately \$3 million to eligible disaster applicants for personal property losses; and, helped nearly 300 individuals and families find assistance for their disaster related needs not met through federal assistance in the largest flood disaster in the state in more than a decade.
 - The number of applicants in this disaster and the amount of ONA cases processed doubled the numbers in the last two disasters combined -- and disbursed approximately \$1 million more than the combined total of the last two disasters.
 - The Emergency Management Division collaborated with the FEMA Human Services Team to reduce claims processing errors in this disaster. Prior FEMA automated claims processing had a 40% error rate. The successful solution for this disaster was to have Washington State EMD manually determine cases which reduced the error rate to less than one per cent, while processing more cases in less time than in previous disasters. The result has been faster support to citizens from the Federal Individuals and Households Program with fewer errors.
- The Public Assistance (PA) program for this disaster grew from 1 person to 27 staff members to address the disaster-related requirements of public agencies.
- 182 Total Applicant Requests were received: 2 applicants determined to be ineligible; 8 applicants withdrawn

- In December and January, 11 Applicant Briefings were presented for the declared counties.
- 182 Kickoff Meetings were conducted with individual applicants for specific projects.
- 1,337 projects are projected for the cost of the response to and repair of the damages from the disaster. There have been 1,183 project worksheets entered into FEMA's computer system for review and action, and 913 project worksheets have been acted on.
- Initial estimate of the cost of this disaster for public agencies was about \$83 million. As of March 18, 2008, \$27,917,299.38 had been approved for eligible costs (\$20,937,975.53 federal share)

FEMA and the SBA

- As of March 18, 2008, FEMA had approved \$17,157,720 in Housing Assistance payments.
- As of March 19, 2008, the US Small Business Administration had issued 6,564 applications for home loans, had received 1,583 back, and had approved 622, totaling \$20,522,800. They have issued 2,174 business/Economic Injury Disaster Loan applications, received 433 to date, and approved 133, totaling \$11,086,400.

Donations

EMD established a donations-needed list on its website, collecting in one place the requests that are being made by local emergency centers, and allowing potential contributors to view the types of items their cash donations will help purchase. This website is the first of its kind in the nation. There is also a site which suggests that contributors can donate to the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, or the Washington Interfaith Disaster Recovery Organization (WIDRO) which was established after last year's storm.

- Home Depot Foundation -- \$5,000 in kind donation of emergency clean up supplies to Aberdeen Fire Department and \$5,000 cash donation to American Red Cross for emergency supplies
- Toys R Us -- \$10,000 cash donation to the United Way of Lewis County
- REI -- \$10,000 cash donation; did not state to which entity it was made
- Puget Sound Energy -- In kind donation of 3 electric line and 6 tree crews to Grays Harbor; 1 tree crew to Mason County; \$1,000 cash donation each to the United Way of Lewis County and the Lewis County chapter of Red Cross
- SAFECO -- \$25,000 cash donation to the Red Cross -- Mount Rainier Chapter, and established a matching gift program for employee and agents contributions for the event
- Harbor Pacific Bottling Company -- In kind donation of 2,000 bottles of water
- PEMCO -- \$10,000 to the American Red Cross and will match its employees' contribution dollar-for-dollar, and its retirees 50 cents for each dollar contributed.
- Boeing -- \$100,000 for Northwest (Washington and Oregon) relief and would also match its employees dollar for dollar and retirees 50 for each dollar contributed.

- ATT Foundation -- \$25,000 to the American Red Cross
- Wal-Mart -- \$25,000 to the Lewis County Food Bank Coalition; and \$10K to the Chehalis Police Dept and Lewis County Sheriff's Dept for toy purchase and distribution. Also an kind donation of 4 pallets of water
- The Seahawks partnered with the Salvation Army to collect donations at both the Ravens and the Cardinals games. Amount collected unknown.
- Amgen Foundation -- \$25,000 to the American Red Cross Mt. Rainier chapter
- BNSF -- \$25,000
- More than \$70,000 has been donated to the WA Farm Bureau Flood Relief Fund set up assist farmers, ranchers and the agricultural community. Farm Bureau leaders in the affected communities will determine how the funds are distributed.

DOH received an offer from the Vice President at LabCorp in Vancouver volunteering his organization to help at no cost with water testing, help with medical issues, etc. The Public Health Lab further investigated this offer and found that, while it is very generous and appreciated, at this time they didn't have the need for the further testing they can provide. The Lab will look into establishing MOUs/MOAs with LabCorp for possible use during future events.